

Shinagh Dairy Farm Report 22-06-2018

Profitable Science Based Farming

Farm Update

62.50 ha are available for grazing. There are 244 milking cows and 58 spring born 2018 dairy heifer calves grazing this. That is a stocking rate of 4.08 cows per hectare, giving a feed demand of 69kg of DM per hectare per day.

After more than 42 days breeding we have a 66% not return to first service (this was an AI service). We are happy with this, as if it was too high a non-return rate we would question if we were picking up all the repeats. If the non-return rate was too low it would indicate a serious fertility problem, which we would need to investigate immediately. 6 weeks of AI used. Stock Bulls (all Friesian) running with the herd at this stage.

The herd is milking 17.5 litres at 4.08% fat, 3.63% protein (4.76 % lactose, 133,000 SCC and 3,000 TBC). That's 1.38kg per cow per day.

Farm cover has dropped to 659Kg/DM/ha or 162 kg/DM per cow. Growth is 65kg/DM/day. Growth has slowed in spite of some rain last Monday. With the high temperatures forecast for next week, ration will be introduced this weekend to reduce feed demand and hold up farm cover.

Updates are on the Shinagh website: <http://www.shinaghdairy.ie/>